

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been amended to clarify that the part of the surface which is not in contact with the press apparatus is different from the part of that surface which is in contact with the press apparatus. This amendment therefore merely clarifies this limitation and does not narrow the scope of the claims.

According to a feature of the invention set forth in the claims, a supplementary apparatus in a high pressure processing apparatus is provided for changing a condition in a high pressure processing chamber of the apparatus and is disposed so as to be in contact with a part of the surface of a vessel section which is pressed by the press apparatus. For example, referring to the non-limiting embodiments of the figures, the supplemental apparatus 12 in Figures 1-2 is a driving apparatus for providing rotary movement or up and down movement for the oscillation of the stage 13 and is located in the space 15 within the annular press cylinder 17. It therefore contacts another part of the same surface of the vessel section 3 which is contacted by the annular press cylinder 17. The supplemental apparatus 12 is thus internal to the high pressure processing apparatus and contributes to its compactness. Other embodiments are shown in Figures 3 and 4-5.

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 as being anticipated by U.S. patent 5,194,406 (Bok et al.). Applicants wish to thank Examiner Hoang for the courtesy of an interview on October 13, 2004 at which time the aforementioned rejection was discussed. At that time, Applicants pointed out that the pulsator 32 in Bok et al. does not contact the same surface as does the application part of the thrust chamber 36. It was therefore agreed that the rejection based upon this reference would be withdrawn.

The claims have been revised in light of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, which is believed to be moot.

Application No. 10/625,529
Reply to Office Action of September 23, 2004.

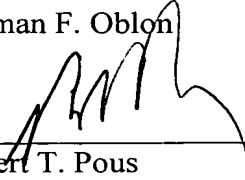
Applicants therefore believe that the present application is in a condition for allowance and respectfully solicit an early notice of allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)
RTP/rac



Robert T. Pous
Registration No. 29,099

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